

## San Marino, Huntington Library, HM 00266

*Description:* ff. 84 - Bound, s. XVIII, in parchment over pasteboards; on the spine: "Treatise on Contemplation MS" and an eighteenth or nineteenth century circular label "739." A previous limp parchment binding now serves as flyleaves, with "304" and "MS Saeculi xiv" on what was the front cover, and with "MS \_\_\_?\_\_\_ in Old English on Vellum" on the remainder of the former spine. On the leaves of the volume, stab holes from an earlier binding. - Written in England in the middle of the fifteenth century by John Clerk (d. 1472). Sold by Taylor to Sir Thomas Phillipps; his MS 2180 and Middle Hill stamp on f. i. Acquired privately by Henry E. Huntington through A. S. W. Rosenbach in 1923. - C. W. Dutschke with the assistance of R. H. Rouse et al., *Guide to Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in the Huntington Library* (San Marino, 1989). De Ricci, 65.

*Number of Parts:* 1 - *Number of Images Available:* 0

*Direct Link:* [http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/HM00266\\_43](http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/HM00266_43)

*Language:* English *Country:* England *Century:* 15th

*Gallery of Images for this Manuscript:* [http://dpg.lib.berkeley.edu/webdb/dsheh/heh\\_br?CallNumber=HM+266](http://dpg.lib.berkeley.edu/webdb/dsheh/heh_br?CallNumber=HM+266)

### Part 1: ff. 1-84v

*Description:* - Parchment - 150 x 219 mm - For a tentative collation based on the surviving signatures (no catchwords) and the amount of missing text, see the full description; when complete the volume contained 159 leaves, but only 84 are now present, and bound in disordered manner. The quires are signed in roman numerals in the right corner of the first leaf recto; extant leaf signatures are "c" and "d" on ff. 23 and 24 (the third and fourth leaves in quire 7) and a series of dots, two on f. 46, and three on f. 47, representing the second and third leaves of quire 11. 23-30 long lines frame ruled in ink; pricking occasionally visible in the upper and lower margins.

*Country:* England

*Cardinal point:*

*Region:*

*City:*

*Assigned Date:* s. XV<sup>med</sup>

*Searchable Date Range:* 1440 - 1460

*Dated by scribe:* No

*Inscribed Date:*

*Document:* No

*Number of Scribes:* ;

*Scribe(s):* John Clerk

*Script:* Anglicana with some secretary forms

*Other Decoration:* 3- and 2-line red initials, those on ff. 29v-30 with flourishing in the ink of the text, the rest unornamented

*Notes:* The scribe may be identified as the John Clerk, monk of Hinton Charterhouse, who copied, and perhaps compiled, Cambridge, St. John's College MS E.22. The added leaf, f. 1, possibly by the same hand in a slightly rounder script. Latin

*Number of Texts:* 1

### Text 1: ff. 1-84v but see reading order

*Author:* Walter Hilton

*Title:* Scale of Perfection

*Language(s):* English

*Incipit:* //þaw3 þe þink þiself reccheles & negligent

*Explicit:* and oftentimes þur3 here gostly presence//

*Notes:* Walter Hilton, *Scale of Perfection*, beginning and ending defectively and with loss of text due to missing leaves; the volume is misbound and should be read as follows, the numbers in parentheses giving the page numbers in E. Underhill, ed., *The Scale of Perfection by Walter Hilton* (London 1923): f. 13r-v (75-77), f. 14r-v (84-87), f. 3r-v (136-38), f. 4r-v (164-67), f. 2r-v (167-69), f. 1r-v (170-71), ff. 16-20v (169-85), ff. 21-36v (189-245), ff. 43-84v (280-377), ff. 37-38v (377-82), f. 41r-v (382-84), ff. 7-8v (384-89), f. 42r-v (389-90), ff. 39-40v (390-96), ff. 11-12v (415-20), f. 15r-v (443-45), ff. 5-6v (451-55), ff. 9-10v (455-60). The text contains Books 1 and 2 in an apparently deliberate abridgment and thus the chapters do not always coincide with those in the Underhill edition; many of the expanded "Christo-centric" passages are present (that on the Holy Name not verifiable due to missing leaves). For list of manuscripts, see H. L. Gardner, "The Text of the Scale of Perfection," *Medium Aevum* 5 (1936) 11-30; S. S. Hussey, "The Text of the Scale of Perfection: Book II," *Neuphilologische Mitteilungen* 65 (1967) 75-92; T. Takamiya, "Luttrell Wynne MS of Walter Hilton," *Reports of the Keio Institute* 7 (1975) 171-91. See also R. Hanna, "The Archaeology of a Manuscript: Huntington Library HM 266," *Scriptorium* 36 (1982) 99-102.